

ASYNCHRONOUS ONLINE LEARNING

Here's another way to plan

Often, we might try to replicate the on campus experience. For example, we might only use a Zoom webinar instead of an on campus class.

Instead, you could think about adopting an online approach that transforms the learning experience - using a mix of asynchronous (e.g., recorded videos, polls, forums, other) and synchronous (e.g., zoom) activities to replace your on campus lesson.

Here's an approach to implement online learning in this way:

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| #1 | Design your weekly content in 'chunks' built into sections in Moodle - one or more as needed. Each chunk should contain items 2 to 9 below. |
| #2 | Provide a clear and welcoming introduction to this section. |
| #3 | Outline the learning goals for this section |
| #4 | Show the relationship between this section and one or more assessment tasks |
| #5 | Give clear expectations or instructions about what students should be doing in the week. What sections should they cover, what is the sequence of the learning activities and how long should each one take. |
| #6 | If relevant, give students details about any synchronous activity (e.g., a lecture or tutorial being conducted via zoom or other technology). |
| #7 | Build community – build in learning activities that create a sense of belonging and fun. Now, more than ever, this is needed. Get some ideas here to adapt for this purpose. |
| #8 | Outline learning activities and resources in a logical sequence with clear instructions. This could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A short video or audio recording from you which sets up the learning activities. Best to keep it short - 10 minutes. Use some key prompts and questions to focus students and introduce them to content.• A set of learning activities where students engage with the content, ideas and skills (see Tip #3 below)• A way for you to check in to understand if your students are succeeding (e.g. asking students to complete a quiz, respond to a task in a Moodle forum, etc.) |
| #9 | Create opportunities for students to ask questions. Set up a Moodle discussion forum and be sure to get your team to check and respond. You might like to offer a 20-minute Zoom check in instead. Remember to record this session and post it. |
| #10 | Wrap up the session. Provide links to further resources and information if required (if optional, make this clear to students.) Tell students what they will do next week. |

Quick ideas

- #1 Think about the activities that you design each week as part of an interactive chapter of a whole book (the unit). Each chapter tells a story which students engage with as they do the activities. Each activity needs to fit clearly into the story. It should contribute to the logical sequence of your narrative.
- #2 If you want to view some examples of sessions which apply this approach, see [here](#).
- #3 Think about the purpose of each learning activity you design. Is it to allow you to:
 - communicate with students?
 - engage students?
 - monitor and assess students and provide feedback?

See [here](#) for great ideas on how to achieve each of these.